



Center for Instruction,
Technology & Innovation
Build Your Future

CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?



*Distance
decreases
the signal
strength*

WEARING A MASK AND/OR INCREASED SOCIAL DISTANCING RESULTS IN:

- Increased difficulty in understanding speech
- Loss of visual cues
- Reduced discrimination of speech signal among competing noise (HVAC system/Fan Noise)

TEACHER TIPS FOR IMPROVED COMMUNICATION:

- Speak slowly and slightly louder, but don't shout or exaggerate your speech.
- Make sure you have the attention of your student before you start talking.
- Use your eyes, hands, and body language to add information to your speech.
- Provide visual references (e.g., printouts, notes, images) to accompany communication.
- Ask if they understood you—if they didn't, rephrase it or write it down.
- Ask them to repeat important information to see whether they understood what you said.
- Reduce competing noise in the environment, if possible.
- If you're talking with someone new, ask the person what you can do to make communication easier for both of you.

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